W. D. Nickerson
Masonic Temple.

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MARCH, 1895.

THE FREEMASON AND THE FEZ

In the interests of Freemasonry and the Mystic Shrine in North America.

JOHN WESTLEY GEIGER,
EDITOR.

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The FREEMASON
* * * * AND THE FEZ. . . .

VOLUME III. CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA, MARCH, 1895. NUMBER 3.

SIR DAVID WATHERUP CLEMENTS,
R. E. GRAND COMMANDER OF IOWA,
KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

A FEW COALS;

OR

THE MYSTERIOUS MARK.

[BY JOHN KENNEDY.]

(*Concluded from Last Issue.*)

"I know it's a'llers the case Mr. Butler," said the watch, "with these ere young stealers when they git kotched. They cry and talk so nice you kin hardly lock 'em up till morning."

Mr. Butler was one of those kind of men, the very essence of who's soul is an anxiety for wealth, and whose only incentive to live is to fill their coffers with gold. Who stoops to any act however mean, and will violate any confidence however sacred, if a penny more is to be added to their wealth.

In his earlier days Mr. Butler was very poor, but fortune smiled upon him, and he had now become opulent. When wealth threw its golden arms around him, and caressed him with its smiles, the benevolence of his nature was sealed up, and the fountains of charity were dried, lest his wealth might take wings and fly away. He was an oppressor of the poor, and a hard task master to those who were dependent upon him. If a laborer worked for half wages, he would cheat him out of another fourth, and beggar his family. He was an individual who was known to be heartless, whose character for want of truth and veracity was a by-word of the community where he was known. But notwithstanding his vulgarity and lack of gentility, like many others who infest the society of men bearing the imprint of all that is good and noble,—his wealth was a barque in which he could ride on the smooth sea of aristocracy.

Long was the night to Willie, and wearily wore away the hours. Many were the little prayers he offered up for his mother, and many were the promises he framed to offer her, if she would forgive his disobedience. The tears of sorrow and heart-felt repentance that fell from his eyes were worth more than all the wealth of Crœsus. They were the out-pourings of a soul truly penitent, and the seal of a stern resolve, never to disobey again. Overcome with fatigue, and almost famished with hunger, he stretched himself beneath an old bench that stood in the watch-house, and was soon lost in a disturbed slumber.

But sweet was that sleep, and softly the angels whispered that his mother had gone hence. He saw them hovering in a circle of light around him, singing soft sweet music, that floated in liquid notes through the air, and melted away in the distance, soothing the mind as the balmy zephyr sooths the weary traveler. In their midst he beheld his mother, wearing a crown of glory, and her white robe floating in the air while her face beamed with happiness. She was singing the song of the angels, and as the chorus concluded she stooped to imprint a kiss upon his cheek. He threw up his arms to clasp her to his bosom—when he awoke the vision had fled.

At length morning came and with it a piercing cold wind that seemed to drive its frozen fangs to the very soul. Willie's teeth chattered, and trembling with cold he drew his few rags more closely around him as he followed the policeman to the Mayor's court.

As Willie was passed into the bar among the other prisoners, the audience and the court seemed surprised at his age, and the calmness with which he submitted to the orders of the officer.

One after one the prisoners were disposed of, and at length Willie's turn came.

"This is a young looking prisoner," remarked the Judge, as Willie stood shivering before the bar.

"With what is he charged?"

"With theft, your honor," replied the clerk.

"Who are the witnesses?"

"Mr. Butler, and Mr. Hardy, a policeman."

Mr. Butler was called forward and sworn.

"Last night about nine o'clock as I was coming home, I heard some person trying to get something out of the snow, and on going round to my coal-pile that lays outside the coal-house—I found this lad with his armful about to start off with it. I stopped him, and called the policeman to take him to the watch-house, that is all I know, your honor."

"Do you know the boy?" inquired the Judge.

"I know him by sight; he lives close by me. He is a regular little thief," continued Mr. Butler.

"At the charge of being a thief, the tears gathered in Willie's eyes, for he knew in his own heart that the charge was a gross slander. He gazed about the court room as if seeking a friend, but all countenances seemed to cast a cold and condemning look upon him. He drew his naked wrist across his eyes to dry his tears, and as he did so a *magic emblem* displayed itself, and drew to his little heart a friend.

The policeman was called and substantiated the statement of Mr. Butler.

"Well, my lad?" said the Judge, "what have you to say?"

"Nothing sir," replied Willie.

"What was you going to do with the coal?"

"Make a fire with it to keep my mother from freezing."

"Did your mother tell you to get it?"

"No sir."

"Did you know you was stealing?"

"My mother said it was, but I was going to pay it back to-morrow."

"He pay it back" exclaimed Mr. Butler, "by stealing more to-night."

"You are not giving evidence now, Mr. Butler," rejoined the Judge.

"Do you know what stealing is, my lad?"

"Yes sir; to take that which don't belong to you."

"Do you know the ten commandments and the Lord's prayer?"

"Yes, sir."

"Who taught them to you?"

"My mother."

"Do you know it is wrong to steal?"

"Yes sir, my mother always taught me so."

"Have you a father?"

"No sir."

The Judge appeared at a loss what course to pursue. He was satisfied the intentions of Willie were perfectly honest, and yet the evidence was so positive that it was almost impossible to avoid committing him to the House of Correction.

"If your honor please," said a gentleman rising and *making himself known to the Judge*, "this matter had better be attended to a little further. If your honor will allow me, I'll take the lad to his mother and learn more about this affair."

"You have my permission," replied the Judge.

Willie wept for joy as the warm hand of the stranger pressed his little wrist, as he led him forth from the court room.

What pleasant emotions filled his breast, and what strong resolves were made to be a great and good man, and to protect and make happy the declining years of his mother. In his joy at meeting her again he felt not the penetrating blast of cold that pierced his almost naked limbs, or the icy pavement upon which his bare feet pattered.

"Who made that mark on your arm?—Some of your school fellows I suppose," said the man examining it.

"No sir, mother says father made it."

"Ah!" murmured the stranger.

They stepped into a shoe store where Willie was provided with a new pair of shoes, and in a clothing establishment where his back was covered with a new and comfortable coat.

With a light heart and an eager step Willie bounded up the old rickety stairs, and rushed into the room to clasp his mother to his heart, and introduce his kind

benefactor. She was still where he had left her, still sitting before the cold and dreary grate, whose empty ribs were grinning at her with a ghastly stare, as if in mockery of her icy gaze. "Oh! mother, see," he exclaimed as he threw his arms about her neck, and kissed her pallid cheek. He knelt before her and laid his head in her lap and wept. "O, speak to me mother, I will never disobey you again." He kissed her lips and placed his hands affectionately upon her cheek, but it was as cold as the frozen earth.—"How cold you are mother. O, do speak to me."

Poor Willie pleaded in vain, she had spoken her last words to him, "thou shalt not steal." Her lips were sealed in death, her spirit had long fled from the body, and cold winter had set its frigid stamp upon her brow.

The stranger wept as he beheld the fond caresses the poor boy lavished upon that inanimate being who was his mother. Though abject poverty stared from every nook and corner of the old house, and starvation added to the freezing pangs of winter, they were not sufficient to drive from the heart of Willie his duty to his mother. He had left her to seek a few coals to save her, but he had been arrested in the deed by a man of wealth, and one who was trumpeted to the world as a philanthropist, a benevolent citizen, a man good to the poor; yes, where he knows his name will be emblazoned in gilt letters, or be extoled to the skies through the columns of some newspaper.

Willie could not comprehend the conduct of his mother. He knew it was unusual, she appeared unnatural, but why, was beyond his knowledge. Death he only knew by name, and with it was coupled the idea of shrouds, and coffins, long processions, and people mourning for the departed. No such pageant presented itself, and no mourners save the generous friend who beheld the scene and recollected his once poor and penniless condition.

"My son," said the stranger, taking Willie's hands between his own, while the big scalding tears fell thick and fast, "your mother is dead!"

"Dead!" he exclaimed as the truth flashed across his mind, "then she is gone to join my father," and gazing a few moments upon her, he continued "I have no home now."

"Yes, you have," replied the stranger, "my house is your home."

"Thank you sir," said Willie, "but let me stay with my mother."

"You may stay a little while," he answered, and noticing something glittering in the folds of her dress, he examined it, and found it was a Masonic medal. This left no doubt in his mind of Willie's father having belonged to the fraternity, and his mother was a Mason's widow.

This information was speedily communicated to the lodges, and a respectable funeral was provided for the one who would have found a pauper's grave, except for the indelible mark of Masonry upon the arm of her son.

Willie was taken home by the generous stranger, from whose bounty he received a liberal education, and provided with a lucrative business. When he arrived at the years of maturity, he was an honor to his benefactor, an ornament to society, and became one of the brightest members of the Masonic brotherhood. We are proud to say he has made his home in our jurisdiction, and will from time to time be heard from by the Fraternity.

The Cosmopolitan continues to verify its name in the lavish style with which it is crowded with the best things of the day. Ten illustrated articles in the March number, and each collection equally beautiful. The wonder to us always is, how can they give for $1.50 a year, what is the equal of the highest priced magazines.

THE LODGES.

GRAND LODGES MEET.

Iowa, Marshalltown, June 4, 1895.
Nebraska, Omaha, June 12, 1895.

Our personal services are promised for St. John's day this year, (June 24) at Moravia, Iowa.

Marion Lodge No. 6, Marion, has increased the fees from $25.00 to $35.00 and the dues from $2.00 to $2.50.

A short call at Sabula shows the brethren to be in a good condition there. Masonry need not blush for its standing in that town.

At Preston the craft are still moving along the paths of active progress. A word with Brother Bartholomew informed us that they still keep things lively here.

Maquoketa, always prominent in Masonic activity, still lives. While there a few hours lately we had time to take the hands of numerous brethren whom we know to love as true Masons.

Springville 139, Springville, had a great gathering of over 300 guests in the Presbyterian church, in that thrifty little city, on Feb. 22. A banquet was served. This Lodge is alive and on the move. Work, almost continuous.

Two nights with Herald Lodge, 455, Maxwell, convinced us that they are not asleep, nor inactive. We found a soft bed in the house of Brother J. W. Maxwell. Every member of this lodge seems to feel an interest in its work.

From *The Commercial Appeal*, of Memphis, Tenn., we learn that M. W., Bun F. Price, P. G. M., is Veteran Master of the Memphis Masonic Veteran's Association, and that on Feb. 27 they visited DeSoto Lodge, and conferred the third degree, by request.

Brother Geo. B. Van Saun corrects our statement that Isaac Van Saun is his father, he is his "brother in the flesh."

Twilight Lodge 329, of Spirit Lake, Ia., had a special program on Feb. 20, with music, and addresses by Rev. C. E. Freeman, and Brother G. B. Van Saun, Visiting Custodian.

At Sabula, the Lodge is prosperous, having, as many know, comfortable quarters in the renovated school building which they bought a few years ago. Brother George Heberling is happy, they have discovered a flowing artesian well—of water, twenty pounds to the square inch.

In a letter from Brother Moses Simon, of Carroll, unfortunately overlooked last month, we note that the Lodges in his section are getting in line for the largest Masonic celebration of St. John's day ever held in that part of the state. What they purpose, that they perform out there.

Brother Rob. Morris used to say that the Masonic Lodge which was ruled from the south-east corner, would generally be found in an unhappy condition. Others of extensive experience and observation are of the opinion that the same may be said of all bodies having any relation to Masonry. It is the duty of the Secretary "to observe the will and pleasure" of the presiding officer, and *not to dictate.—Masonic Advocate.*

Dear Brother Geiger: We appreciate the improvement made in the Iowa FREEMASON, and hope a sufficient number of the brethren of Iowa will do the same, to enable the congenial editor to make it one of the brightest exponents of the golden fraternity, thus making his success as grand as "the glorious mysteries that will be revealed hereafter." Yours fraternally,

C. B. BUSH.

DISTRICT SCHOOLS AGAIN.

From Brother Van Saun we have a personal letter in notice of the article on this subject in our February number. He thinks that "the heavy weight was what killed it—that was, the apparent expense attending the plan—which the Grand Lodge was not willing to incur."

Brother Van Saun thinks "a plan of six (6) District Schools during the months of October to March, in central localities of the state, would accomplish much good. There should be authority given to some one to order the attendance of the W. M. and Senior Deacon of each lodge in the district." It is his opinion that "these several schools should be under the direct care of the Grand Master and one or more of the Board of Custodians, and whatever actual expense were made by them should be paid by the Grand Lodge upon proper vouchers." His opinion coincides with our own when he urges "in no case would I favor the plan so as to interfere with the visitation of the individual lodges." He thinks that such a system of district schools would not prove expensive and would do much good. He urges us to "stir up the craft upon the subject" and promises personally to do his best to carry out any plan the Grand Lodge may adopt. So far as we can see now the views of those most interested are in favor of a voluntary district school with no change in the arrangement except to call a number of Lodges together, leaving to them to organize beforehand either at the center, where held, or by committee from each lodge for the introduction of "orators" or "grand officers" among the workmen. We have only the success of the higher education of our lodge officers at heart, and we perceive a strong inclination to resist adding any conditions likely to cause additional expense. We give no opinion about it, we state the facts. Now, let the ventilation go on. Let there be light.!

MASON CITY TEMPLE.

On October 26, 1894, the corner stone of Mason City's new Masonic Temple was laid. On Feb. 26, 1895, just four months later, the beautiful and commodious edifice was dedicated. The R. W. Grand Master Judge Fellows, presided, and with the assistance of various local and visiting brethren the ceremonies were successfully carried out without a break. The oration was delivered by the editor, and the Grand Master delivered an able address. Both those appeared in the *Times-Herald* of February 27. A grand banquet was served in the evening, after which numerous toasts were responded to in the halls above. The Armory (not of the Temple) was fitted up and a ball given to wind up the day's doings with a whirl. We can only add that our old home bodies have the finest quarters, exclusively their own, in Iowa; and they will experience the natural result in the greater growth that will follow. The ladies of the O. E. S. served the banquet for the dedication, gratuitously, so that the proceeds went as a clear profit to the treasury.

CUSTODIAN'S SCHOOLS.

We aim to keep standing the regular appointments of the Grand Custodian, Brother Geo. B. Van Sann, and we shall have his corrections each month.

Dear Brother Geiger:

On my last route I filled all my engagements with the exception of visiting Paton two days. On account of missing Rail Road connections at Perry, I was obliged to remain at that place over night and resume my journey to Paton the next day. Brother Perrott, W. M. of 299, at Perry, called several of the brethren together that evening and a brother was passed to the second degree.

The last evening at Spirit Lake, Feb. 20, was given up to a social gathering at the lodge room with the brethren, their wives and daughters, closing up with a banquet at the Crandall House, in which Brother Funk, (ex-state senator) was truly in his element. My present route, Creston and Cumberland, have thus far been filled. Oakland, by some misunderstanding, will be dropped out for some other time in the future, and their time given to Creston. Will be at

Elliott, March 5 and 6.
Chariton, March 7 and 8.

And then for home. My next route will be at

Iowa City, March 12 and 13.
Burlington, March 14, 15 and 16.
Danville, March 18 and 19.
Farmington, March 20 and 21.
Dowds, March 22 and 23.
Prairie City, March 25 and 26.
New Sharon, March 27 and 28.
Boone, April 2 and 3.
Denison, April 4 and 5.
Carroll, April 6 and 8.
Persia, April 9 and 10.

I will then have upon my list unplaced, the following calls: Oakland, Parkersburg, Laurens, Riceville, Akron, Garner, Corydon, LeMars, Barnes, Forest City and Kingsley; which I will reach as soon as I can. Thus far I have visited forty places during the season and will keep on the move until I am obliged to stop for want of time to fill the calls as they come in.

Would be pleased to meet you at some of the places named in my list. Cannot you make it convenient to do so? In due time you will hear from me again.

Yours fraternally,
GEO. B. VAN SAUN, V. C.

GENERAL THANKSGIVING.

To R. E., W. R. Bowen, Grand Secretary, for the Proceedings of the Grand R. A. Chapter of Nebraska, for 1894.

To J. G. Barker, Sec'y. Gen. for the proceedings of the Supreme Council Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite (U. S.) for 1894.

To Companion R. E., Alf. Wingate, Grand Recorder, of Vol. VII, of the transactions of the Grand Chapter of Iowa, 1891-4.

To Noble Chas. E. Walters, Sec'y. for the Proceedings of the Nebraska Bankers' Association for 1894, and Walter's Directory of Associate Attorneys of the Walters Collection Company. All sent from Omaha, Nebraska.

THE ROYAL ARCH.

CONVOCATIONS.

General Grand (U. S.) Baltimore, Md., ———, 1897.
Iowa Grand, Dubuque, Sept. 26, 1895.
Nebraska, Omaha, Dec. 11, 1895.

If the Council degrees shall remain in the Chapter, then let the Grand Chapter compel the proper officers themselves or through a custodian, to confer them and be quick about it. There's a lot of carelessness exhibited in Iowa just now.

Not long ago, Companion G. R. Turner, one of the Board of Custodians, spent a night with Trowel Chapter 49, Cedar Rapids, exemplifying the council degrees. On every hand we hear praise spoken of the benefit it was to the Companions present. Let others imitate Trowel Chapter.

We do not aim to merely voice our own sentiments in this journal, but the concensus of opinion in the majority. Personally we favor the separation of the Council from the Chapter; but the views of our Companions are in most instances against us, though not all, because of circumstances connected with the case that we are not yet well informed about.

A great deal depends upon the Companions themselves as to whether the Chapter shall keep its place in the line of success. No ritual will work itself. Novelty wears off. Nothing holds the intelligent Companion like the beautiful work of the Chapter and Council well and faithfully rendered. Monkey-work is in this like everything else, sure to knock down and drag out the interest.

Mohamet, when his uncle, Abu Thaleb, pressed him to be silent, and not anger the chief people by his utterances, answered that if the sun stood on his right hand and the moon on his left, ordering him to hold his peace, he could not obey.

COMMANDERIES.

CONCLAVES.

Grand Encampment, Boston, Mass., Aug. 27, 1895.
Iowa Grand, Templar Park, July 9, 1895.
Missouri Grand, St. Louis, April 23, 1895.

GOING TO BOSTON?

Well, I reckon! How are you going? Why, of course the way the rest go! Ahem, well, I presume you remember that the number who constitute the "rest" runs up in the thousands, while the routes are as numerous as the different lines of travel? Tell me a few of the plans of travel. I will —Some are going by way of some northern line, others by the central roads, while others are going by southern lines to some Atlantic seaboard city, and thence by ocean steamer to Boston and Nantasket. There, now, pay your money and take your choice. Our April number will give some early pointers, so look alive and then decide upon your plans IN TIME. Iowa will have no official route west of Chicago—(that is the Templars will not)—all will gather at Chicago, get a lake breeze, then streak it for Boston. Shriners will be influenced a little by their western neighbors, and we may have something to tell them of Arabian itineraries next month.

APPEALED.

The Grand Commander, Thos. R. Morrow, has appealed to the Grand Encampment the decision of Eminent Sir Chas. S. Glaspell, as approved by the Grand Commandery of Missouri, April 24, 1894, with reference to the effect upon Commandery membership of Sir Knights who voluntarily remain non-affiliated in either Lodge or Chapter for more than twelve months. There has been much said and written on this vexed question, and this appeal will settle the matter. If there is no law on the subject, the Grand Encampment cannot too soon enact a law that will compel a Sir Knight to remain an affiliate with Lodge and Chapter. The Grand Encampment must place itself square upon the Lodge and Chapter or cease to be a Masonic organization.—*The Masonic Constellation.*

GENERAL ORDER NO. 2.

WEST UNION, Feb. 6, 1895.

The order of reading the second and third lessons of the K. T. ritual being optional, and uniformity of work within this Grand Jurisdiction being desirable, it is ordered that said lessons be read as given on page 61 of said ritual, viz.: The second lesson after the address given on page 59, ("The Ode" to follow it); and the third lesson after the address given at the top of page 61 (the work given at bottom of page 60 to follow the third lesson.)

D. W. CLEMENTS, Grand Commander.
Attest: ALF. WINGATE, Grand Recorder.

GENERAL ORDER NO 3.

From the Apartments of the Grand Commander, under date of Feb. 11, 1895, we have this official document calling attention to the Triennial Conclave at Boston, and announcing the headquarters of Iowa Templars at 527 and 529, Massachusetts Ave. All communications in regard to rooms are to be addressed to Sir T. B. Lacy, Council Bluffs. No official route will be selected from Iowa until Chicago is reached. Sir C. W. Eaton, Cedar Rapids, is Secretary of the committee.

Fraters should not neglect this matter. The general order is posted with each Commandery.

RESENTMENT.

However much one may deprecate the apparent use of unfair and underhanded means in the accomplishment of certain ends, no true Freemason does well to allow place to resentments. So long as the privilege inherent to us to wear our apron as a Master Mason, we shall exercise the right to sit in a just and lawfully constituted Lodge of Masons, let who, will, or by whatever course of non-attendance vote, who may wear its official jewels. To us Masonry is greater than men, and the well being of the body of more importance than our personal feelings. The office, not the man in the office only, shall command our respect. Brother, drop your resentment, it will warp your trestle-board and crack your Masonic cement if you do not.

DESERVED REWARD.

At Mason City we were called upon to spring a surprise on Sir J. H. Valentine, the old reliable of the Masonic bodies. A beautiful Templar charm, in the name of all his brothers and sisters in the fraternity of Mason City, was the gift. "Pap" was fairly caught and for once acknowledged himself "too full" for utterance. He deserved that reward.

Patmos, 27 Marion, created Companion W. J. Collar a member of the Order of the Red Cross on March 5.

Commanderies are getting their lines formed for inspection, and we hope to hear of most of them having a candidate for the Order of the Temple, when inspection night comes.

St. John's Commandery No. 4, K. T., of Philadelphia, Pa., has out their itinerary of the trip, including Boston next August. They leave Saturday, Aug. 24, arrive in Boston Sunday morning. Friday following they leave for the White Mountains, Quebec, Montreal, Thousand Islands, Niagara Falls and home by August 7. Let Iowa fraters get a move on them!

The story is current in the Orient, of a wise old Sheik, who gave a young Arab prince, from whom he was about to part, a list of crimes, and bade him choose the one which seemed least harmful. The young prince turned in horror from murder, theft, and loss of virtue, and told the patriarch he would choose intemperance. "You have chosen that," said the wise old man, "which will bring you all."

THE MISSING STONE.

There is a tradition of the Jewish rabbis which relates the history of a wonderful stone, prepared, as they say, for use in the building of Solomon's Temple. Each block for that matchless edifice was shaped and fitted for its particular place, and came away from the distant quarry marked for the Masons. But this one was so different from any other that no one knew what to do with it. Beautiful, indeed, it was; carved with figures of exquisite loveliness and grace; but it had no fellow; it fitted nowhere, and at last the impatient and perplexed workmen flung it aside as only a splendid piece of folly. Years passed while the proud structure was going up without the sound of axe or hammer. During all the time, this despised fragment of rock was lying in the valley of Jehosaphat, covered with dirt and moss. Then came the day of dedication; the vast throng arrived to see what the Israelites were wont to call the noblest fabric under the sun; crowning the mountain's ridge, and shining with the whiteness of silver and yellowness of gold.

The wondering multitude gazed admiringly upon its magnificent proportions, grand in their splendor of marble. But when one said that the east tower was unfinished, or, at least looked so, the chief architect grew impatient again, and replied that Solomon was wise, but a builder must admit there was a gap in his plans. By and by the king drew near in person; with his retinue he rode directly to the incomplete spot, as if he there expected most to be pleased. "Why is this neglect?" he asked in tones of indignant surprise. "Where is the piece I sent for the head of the corner?" Then suddenly the frightened workmen bethought themselves of that rejected stone which they had been spurning as worthless. They sought it again, cleared it from its defilement, swung it fairly up into its place, and found it was indeed the top-stone fitted so as to give the last grace to the whole."—*C. S. Robinson.*

THE EASTERN STAR.

GRAND BODIES MEET.

General Grand Chapter, Boston, Mass , August 27, 1895.
Iowa Grand Chapter, Charles City, October 23-24, 1895.

From Mrs. Jackson, Grand Secretary, we received a letter with valuable information, which is also included in the Grand Matron's letter printed in this number.

TO EXEMPLIFY THE WORK.

The following are the officers of Excelsior Chapter No. 51, O. E. S., of Charles City, for 1895, who will exemplify the work of the Order at the session of the Grand Chapter next October in Charles City: W. M., Mrs. E. B. Dyke; W. P., Dr. W. T. Knapp; A. M., Mrs. S. R. Hewitt; Treas., Mrs. H. C. Baldwin; Sec., Mrs. J. N. Waller; Com., Mrs. L. M. Loper; A. C., Mrs. S. W. Woodhouse; Chaplain, C. C. Yockey; Adah, Mrs. J. P. Rague; Ruth, Mrs. Nellie Knapp; Esther, Mrs. J. McBirney; Martha, Mrs. Arthur Campbell; Electa, Mrs. G. R. May; Warder, Mrs. W. C. Hering, Sentinel, C. D. Merriam; Organist, Mrs. J. S. Bradley.

WATERLOO RESOLUTIONS.

At a meeting of Waterloo Chapter No. 128 O. E. S., held Feb. 13, the following was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, The Tri-ennial Conclave of Knights Templar will convene at Boston, Mass., in the month of August, 1895, and

WHEREAS, the Meeting of the General Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, will be held at the same time and place; and

WHEREAS, the different Masonic bodies usually secure headquarters where they may establish a temporary home, and fittingly entertain their friends; and

WHEREAS, the Order of the Eastern Star in Iowa, has been abundantly prospered in numbers and in store; Therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the members of Waterloo Chapter No. 128, Order of the Eastern Star, respectfully recommend that the Order of the Eastern Star in Iowa take some immediate measure to secure suitable headquarters in Boston during the time of said Conclave, and General Grand Chapter meeting, and to provide for the necessary funds to defray the expenses of the same; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these Resolutions be furnished to the Grand Matron, Grand Patron, and Grand Secretary, and a copy be furnished to Brother Geiger, with instructions to publish in the next issue of THE FREEMASON AND THE FEZ.

KATE C. BRECHNER,
Grand Adah, O. E. S.

GRAND MATRON'S LETTER.

MT. PLEASANT, Ia., Feb. 21, '95.

REV. JOHN W. GEIGER,

Dear Sir and Brother: I received some time since THE FREEMASON AND THE FEZ for January, and wish, although late, to offer congratulations on the prosperity which its improved appearance indicates. I am afraid we of the Eastern Star cannot take to ourselves any of the credit for that improvement, for we have not been filling the page so generously offered us. I hope we will do better in the future.

For myself, I shall not make any rash promises, but hope to be able to make a note now and then, for things do occur occasionally that are worthy of note. Eight new Chapters so far this year, and two more in readiness, while word comes to us from other places that they hope soon to fall into line, and when they are ready we'll give them a hearty welcome.

February 22, '95.

This was destined for yesterday's mail, but "man proposes" etc. I have now the February number, and note that you have the list of Chapters instituted up to Jan. 21. Since then two new stars have arisen; one at Cambridge, Storey Co., Feb. 2, with Mrs. Ida Thompson, as W. M.; M. M. Keller, W. P.; and Mrs. Eva Silliman, Sec., and Feb. 8, Isis Chapter at Sioux City, with Mrs. Hattie McGibbons, W. M., Dr. John Hanchette, W. P., and Mrs. H. Michelstetter, Sec'y.

That first week in February will be a memorable one, not only for the intense cold, but for the loyalty and devotion of the good sisters and brothers who braved the storms of that week, the very worst in the whole season, to meet their Grand Matron, and thus enabled her to carry out her plans for the week without a single disappointment, instituting two chapters and making four visits of inspection. Next week it is expected that St. Charles and Maquoketa will be added to our constellation. Will report them in due season.

Perhaps you can glean from this something that will be of interest to your readers.

With sincere wishes for the continued prosperity of your paper. I am

Courteously and fraternally,
SARAH E. WOODS.

A. A. S. R.

Van Renssellaer Grand Lodge of Perfection, held its 39th Annual Communication at the Temple, Chicago, on Feb. 28, 1895.

The Scottish Rite bodies of Des Moines Consistory No. 3, will hold their ninth special reunion, in the Valley of Des Moines, Iowa, March 19 to 22, 1895.

The Sixth Annual Conventus of the four bodies of the Rite, S. J., is announced for Richmond, Va., for May 7-10, 1895. Banquet and reception May 10, 8:30 p. m.

"In Iowa the persecution of the brethren of our obedience has been discontinued by the southern jurisdiction brethren, who have control (!) of the machinery of the Grand Lodge, and the work in that state is now progressing."—*Ill. Jno. P. Gorman, M. P. Sov. G. C., "Cerneau Rite.*

VERMONT WORK.

We were shown a complete copy of the official work of the Grand Lodge of Vermont, recently, by Brother Butler, W. M. of Triumph Lodge No. 479, of North English, Iowa. He was made a Mason in Vermont and was for some years Master of a Lodge there and the work is of value to him as a keep-sake. Its additional value consists in the fact that it is almost identical in language with the official work of Iowa.

AMONG EXCHANGES.

The Midland Monthly continues to put forth a rich and entertaining body of contents. The number for March is exceptionally rich.

The *Keystone* thinks inviting ladies to Red Cross banquets after work, is unwise, saying that it will lead to inviting them to witness the conferring of the orders.—*Masonic Token.*

The Rough Ashlar, Richmond, Va., unfortunately has ceased to be. Its columns are broken and the (editorial) brethren mourn. Old Virginia should have done better than that.

Masonic Trowel, of Arkansas, transfers an article entire from our January number, and credits it to the abominable *Exchange.* Brother Thornburg, why treat us thusly? We would not so do to you.

To our numerous exchanges we wish again to express our thanks for their uniformly kindly mention. Their criticisms when made at all have been respectful and suggestive of a spirit of fairness.

Mr. Brigham of the *Midland Monthly*, Des Moines, informs us that he has placed on his subscription books since the first of December last between 1300 and 1400 cash subscriptions—a splendid showing.

Brother and Sister Editors, let us not allow the project for a conference of Masonic editors to fall through. Either personally, by proxy, or by letter, we hope to hear from every journal of the craft at Boston next August.

Masonic Constellation takes us to task for being mixed in regard to Recorders reporting non-affiliates to the Grand Commandery. We stand corrected but not repentant, for such a law ought to be enacted IN EVERY branch of Masonry.

THE MASONIC PRESS.

An article on the above subject has gone the rounds of our exchange list, emanating from the Masonic department of the New York *Times*, and we have only refrained from publishing it because of the confusion of our transition state. Touching the last paragraph reading as follows: "The duty of the Mason is therefore plain. He has a duty to perform in extending the circulation and in widening the influence of the Masonic press. He should not excuse himself from this duty. If he is a Master or officer of the lodge, he may recommend it to the members. If he is not an officer he can urge its claims whenever an opportunity occurs. The fraternity should awaken to a more general effort in behalf of the Masonic newspaper and Masonic literature;" we have but this observation to make, in addition to the personality of its editorial head there is nothing that will go quite as well or quite as far in making any journal known among the members of the Order as personal work. We have offered continually and thus far in vain to give a liberal discount to clubs and we have been forced to conclude that we must hustle with all our might, and our experience is that then we secure nearly every reading and thinking man and woman, who, when once secured, seldom lay aside the Magazine, or refuse to pay for it when requested so to do.

ROBERT MACOY.

Of the death of this great and good man and Mason the *American Tyler* says:

The death of Ill. Brother Robert Macoy, of New York, has sent a thrill of sorrow through every jurisdiction of Masonry, not only in America, but in every place on earth where a Masonic altar is erected. In his day and age few, if any, have done so much to bring into prominence the true philosophy of Freemasonry, and few more fully understood the value of the Craft to humanity at large. He was born October 4, 1815, in Armagh—the lofty field—a city, parliamentary and municipal borough in Ulster county, near Belfast, Ireland, of Scottish-Irish parents. He was brought to the United States when four months old. His grandfather, Robin Smythe, was a magistrate of the city of Armagh, and for many years was an active member of the Masonic Grand Lodge of Ireland. He was initiated into Masonry in Lebanon Lodge No. 13 (now 191), January 20, 1848, and raised February 13 of the same year. He was elected Master of the Lodge in December, 1849. He subsequently dimitted from Lebanon Lodge and united with Americus No. 535, of which he was a member at his death.

He was exalted in Orient Chapter No. 1 (now 138), in 1848. Created a Knight Templar in Orient Chapter No. 1 (now Palestine Commandery No. 18), February 1851. In March, 1851, he demitted from Palestine Encampment for the surpose of reviving, with other Sir Knights, Morton Encampment No. 4, the warrant for which had lain dormant for many years. He was elected Grand Commander of Morton Encampment in 1851. June 6, 1851, he was elected Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment of the State, to which position he was annually re-elected, and held that responsible trust at the time of his death.

The funeral services were held on Sunday at Aurora Grata Cathedral, corner Bedford avenue and Madison street, Brooklyn. The Grand Lodge and Grand Commandery were in attendance.

The Tyler can but add its tribute to the memory of a grand and good man, and the place he held so ably for years will be difficult to fill. He has given to Masonry the ablest compilation of works on the ritualism of the Craft in all its branches. The treatment he received in regard to the high-handed appropriation of his ritual for the Order of the Eastern Star will always leave a stigma upon every Star Chapter using this pirated work, and against the injustice of which *The Tyler* again raises its voice. This outrage was the only thing serving to embitter the declining years of this upright man and Mason who has left us, and we trust the honorable sisters will yet do justice to his memory.

He has gone to his reward, and being dead yet speaketh. His works remain behind him as an imperishable monument through which he will ever speak to the Craft. He rests from his labors.

THE FREEMASON AND THE FEZ.

Published Monthly

In the interest of Freemasonry and the Mystic Shrine in North America.

JOHN WESTLEY GEIGER, K. T., 32°, EDITOR.

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CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA, MARCH, 1895.

OUR GRAND COMMANDER.

This month we present the portrait of our Grand Commander of Iowa Knights Templar, Right Eminent Sir David Watherup Clements, of West Union, Iowa. He saw the light of day on July 9, 1846, and this coincident in his life is worth notice, namely, the Grand Commandery of Iowa convenes at Templar Park on July 9, 1895, and over this body he will preside on his forty-ninth birthday.

Sir Knight Clements received all the degrees of Masonry in the Lodge and Chapter at Clermont, Fayette Co., Iowa, some twenty-three years ago, and the council degrees at the same place at a later date. The Orders of the Red Cross, of The Temple and of Malta, were conferred upon him in Beauseant Commandery No. 12, K. T.; Decorah being completed on May 11, 1882. In July, 1884, he joined in the petition for a dispensation to form and open Langridge Commandery (Now No. 47) K. T. in West Union, and was its first Eminent Commander. He held this position continuously until he had created over forty Knights Templar, and though re-elected again and again he finally prevailed upon his fraters to promote another. He has held the various positions in the Grand Commandery of Iowa, previous to his present exaltation, with credit to himself and honor to the Order. He was Grand Captain General at the last Triennial Conclave three years ago. Unlike many of our prominent citizens, our Grand Commander has not held numerous local offices of trust having just completed his sixth year as prosecuting attorney in his county, after declining re-election last fall, he now pursues the even tenor of his way as a lawyer. As a gentleman and a friend Sir Knight Clements has a large place among us, from which regard his good wife, Lady Clements, must not be left out. One of the saddest bereavements of their lives fell upon them last November in the death of their bright little son Arthur, whom all who were used to meet them at Spirit Lake will remember. Our Grand Commander was chosen to his high position practically without opposition, in recognition of his sterling worth as a man, and his eminent fitness as a Knight Templar to lead the five thousand Templars of Iowa in the march of progress from 1894 to 1895. May his fidelity be rewarded and his years rest upon him lightly, is the sentiment of all of us who know and love him.

LIBRARY NOTES.

Among the valuable books placed in the Iowa Masonic Library the past year we notice two worthy of special mention as valuable reference works. The one being "Ancient Egypt in the Light of Modern Discoveries," a large folio work of over four hundred pages and with over a thousand finely executed illustrations, being historical, pictorial and descriptive of that interesting land from which many of our ceremonies are said to have originated. The other is the "Ancient Egyptian Book of the Dead," published in fine style by Putnam & Sons, of New York. The Library being one of the early subscribers for this fine work. This is doubtless a translation of one of the oldest books in the world which

has been called "The Funeral Ritual or Book of the Dead," and which was considered by the Egyptians as an inspired work and for over five thousand years its prayers, hymns and litanies were in use. It gives one of the most complete accounts of the primitive belief known to exist, and a student of Masonic symbolism will find much of interest in this volume.

Both of these works will in the near future doubtless become valuable as the editions are limited and will always command a good figure. The library is fortunate to be the possessor of both works.

We are incorporated.

Our business prospers. Masons know a good thing.

A large amount of important matter is crowded over to next month.

Don't throw away your magazine, the earlier numbers are necessary to make a complete file. We keep no surplus.

Our difficulty is not to get live material except news items, which are always desirable, but how to resist over crowding our pages with live Masonic articles, original and quoted.

Owing to our receipt of additional matter from our Grand Secretary now in Mexico, a letter now in type is left over until next month, that the "foot note" may accompany the original letter.

Our Secretary and Treasurer is forwarding gentle reminders of subscriptions due and our friends will please remember it is merely a sensible business way, and not offensive to good business taste.

A few subscribers are directing the P. M. to inform us that the Journal is refused, whether the subscription is paid up or not. It is not courteous nor brotherly and we shall probably let it go at that, but the names should be published. "I will not cheat, wrong or defraud!"

THE EARLY HISTORY OF IOWA MASONRY.

[BY HON. T. S. PARVIN, LL. D.]

I.

FIRST ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

The Convention composed of delegates (three from each) elected by the four old lodges adopted a Constitution and By-Laws and elected Grand Officers adjourned the third of January, 1844, to convene the evening of the 8th, as Oliver Cock, of Burlington, Grand Master elect, was not present or a member of the convention.

The convention adjourned sine die at the evening service and the Grand Lodge of Iowa was duly convened for the public installation of its Grand Officers elect.

The four old lodges were represented by their Masters and Wardens and their proxies, viz: Des Moines, No. 1, Oliver Cock, W. M.; H. T. Hugins, J. W. Iowa No. 2, T. S. Parvin, W. M.; Ansel Humphreys, P. M., proxy for S. W., and Isaac Magoon, proxy for J. W. Dubuque No. 3, Timothy Fanning, W. M., and George W. Cummins, J. W. Iowa City, No. 4, William Reynolds, M. D., W. M. and S. M. Ballard, M. D. S. W.

The J. W. of Iowa City Lodge No. 4, has had his Jewell of office "arrested for gross unmasonic conduct" could not take his seat.

Of the nine members of the Grand Lodge at this, its first communication 1844, the Grand Secretary, T. S. Parvin, alone survives.

Visitors. There were twenty-three visitors present, two from Muscatine, two from Dubuque, thirteen from Iowa City, and six non-affiliated Masons from Wapello, Marion, Mt. Pleasant and Keokuk, of whom three brothers, George W. McCleary, William Abbe and William Thompson became Masters of Lodges 5, 6 and 8 at their respective residences.

Among the visitors from Iowa City Lodge No. 4, were James R. Hartsock and Lewis Swafford, who in later years became respectively Grand Master, and Grand High Priest, and whom with General William Thompson, now of Bismarck, North Dakota, survive. Thompson with the Grand Secretary (Parvin) were two of the eight original members of Des Moines Lodge, No. 1, November 1840.

Neither Hartsock or Swafford (all published statements to the contrary) were neither original (Charter) members of either of the four old lodges or of the Grand Lodge, but were initiated in lodges No. 1 and 4, after their organization.

[P. S. Hartsock has died since this article was first written.—Ed.]

New Lodges, first year. Brother McCleary, of Wapello (a member of the Legislature (House) and Abbe of Marion had been interested visitors at the Convention and the Grand Lodge and at once set about to get up a petition for their respective towns.

EARLY RECORDS, IOWA MASONRY.

Petition for Des Moines Lodges. Written by William Thompson, dated Burlington, Iowa, November 12th, 1840. Signed by William Thompson, T. H. Curtis, H. C. Bennett, T. S. Parvin, Evan Evans, Wm. Frye, Chauncey Swan and Robt. Lucas (8). Vouched for by T. S. Parvin and recommended by Naphtali Lodge No. 25, St. Louis, Mo., Nov. 20th, signed James Magehan, Secretary.

Dispensation granted by Jos. Foster, D. G. M. Attest Richard B. Dallam, Grand Secretary and dated St. Louis, Nov. 21, 1840, naming Hiram C. Bennett, W. M.; William Thompson, S. W.; and Evan Evans, J. W.

Organized U. D.—Nov. 30, 1840, all the petitioners present and visitors Robert Martin, Wm. D. McCord and David Hammar (3) all of whom petitioned for and were admitted to memberships (a proceeding wholly "unmasonic.") McCord was appointed Secretary; Martin, Treasurer; Frye, S. D.; Parvin, J. D., and Hammar, Tyler. By-Laws reported later by T. S. Parvin, Chairman, and adopted and printed.

Iowa Lodge, Muscatine. Petition written by T. S. Parvin, dated Jan. 18, 1841. Signed by Ansel Humphreys, Benjamin S. Olds, Moses Couch, S. B. Shortridge, Josiah Parvin, B. P. Howland, John Lilly, Jr., Stephen Whicker, Jr., Joseph Williams and T. S. Parvin (10). Vouched for by T. S. Parvin and Joseph Williams and recommended by St. Louis lodge No. 20, Feb. 2, 1841, signed Richard B. Dallom, Secretary.

Dispensation granted Feb. 4, 1841, by Joseph Foster, D. G. M.; Attest Richard B. Dallam, Grand Secretary; naming Ansel Humphreys, W. M.; John Lilly, Jr., S. W., and Benjamin S. Olds, T. W.

Organized U. D.—15th day of Feb., A. L., 5841, A. D. 1841. The petitioners being present and the following visitors: Silas S. Lathrop, Isaac Morgan, Joseph C. Matthews, Alexander Lewis and Phillip Jeans, Hon. Joseph Williams appointed Secretary; Josiah Parvin, Treasurer; T. S. Parvin, S. D.; B. P. Howland, J. D., and S. B. Shortridge, Tyler. By-Laws drafted by T. S. Parvin, adopted later and published.

Dubuque Lodge, Dubuque. Petition, original lost, but was written by Dr. Timothy Mason and dated August 9, 1842. Signed by James Smith, Timothy Fanning, Narcissus Nadeau, George W. Cummins, Samuel Bigger, Benjamin F. Davis, Elisha Dwelle and Timothy Mason (8). Vouched for by Narcissus Nadeau recommended by —Dispensation, granted Oct. 14, 1842, by Priestly H. McBride, G. M. Attest; Richard B. Dallam, Grand Secretary; naming Timothy Fanning W. M.; George W. Cammins, S. W., and Narcissus Nadeau, J. W.

Organized U. D.—Nov. 26, 1842. The following visitors in addition to the petitioners, viz: William Hooper, James Cullum, Charles Hutawa, Samuel Dixon, David

S. Harris appointed Timothy Mason, Sec.; Samuel Dixon, Treasurer; Elisha Dwelle, S. D.; James Cullum, J. D.; B. F. Davis, Tyler. By-Laws—author not known, adopted Nov. 26, 1842.

Iowa City Lodge, Iowa City. Petition written by T. S. Parvin (Muscatine) dated August 1, 1842. Signed by William Reynolds, Abraham I. Willis, Chauncey Swan, Chas. Nogle, Diodate Holt, John Hawkins, Geo. S. Hampton, John Larue, John Powell and Wm. B. Snyder (10). Vouched for by T. S. Parvin and recommended by Iowa Lodge No. 2, in handwriting of T. S. Parvin, W. M.; and Attested by Benjamin P. Howland, Secretary; dated Sept. 21, 1842. Dispensation granted by Priestly H. McBride, G. H.; Oct. 16, 1842, Attest Richard B. Dallam, Grand Secretary, naming Wm. Reynolds, W. M.; Wm. B. Snyder, S. W., and A. J. Willis, J. W.

Organized—Dec. 9, 1842, Petitioners present and visitors, Abraham J. Beesom, James R. Hartsock, A. B. Newcomb, Pleasant Harris, appointed John Hawkins, Secretary; Chauncey Swan, Treasurer; J. R. Hartsock, S. D.; Charles Nogle, J. D.; A. J. Beeson, Tyler. By-Laws—Reported by Hartsock, January '43, and adopted.

OFFICE OF GRAND SECRETARY, GRAND LODGE A. F. & A. M., STATE OF MISSOURI.

ST. LOUIS, MO., Nov. 27, 1867.

THEODORE S. PARVIN, Esq., R. W. Grand Secretary, Grand Lodge of Iowa.

My Dear Brother:—I send you by express to-day the Original papers of Iowa Lodge No. 42, Des Moines Lodge 41, Iowa City, U. D., all that are left with us. Knowing how valuable they will be to you in completing the early history of Masonry in Iowa and that you prize such things highly. With kindest regards,

I am truly and fraternally yours,

GEO. W. GOULEY,

[SEAL.] Grand Secretary.

[*To be Continued.*]

DEFINING MASONIC BODIES.

"The supremacy of the Grand Lodge and its power to decide what bodies are regular wherein symbolic Masonry is used or made a part of the ceremonies is not, in the opinion of your committee, a new claim by any means, neither is it a new assumption of powers." In this the brother is pre-eminently correct. Indeed, the Grand Lodge of England in 1813, engrafted in its constitution a declaration of this same principle. The Grand Lodges of Scotland and Ireland did the same at a prior date. American Grand Lodges, long before the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts took this specific departure and adopted this regulation, had declared and defined what bodies were Masonic. Even the new Grand Lodge of Iowa, as early as 1866, if not before, legislated upon this very self-same topic. It is, indeed, no new departure; but an initiation, as Brother Cunningham remarks, of an old power passed by Grand Lodges of intelligent Free and Accepted Masons from their first organization.—*G. L. Correspondence, Iowa, 1887.*

The possibilities of the future are measured only by the will of this great army of progress to exercise its power by wise, broad, energetic, conservative action. We are not weak, but strong. Let us take counsel of our hopes, and not of our fears. We may bear with ease, burdens that would have staggered our brethren a quarter of a century ago. Let us in the discharge of our duties, investigate carefully, decide intelligently, but in a broad and liberal spirit worthy our noble cause.—*Grand Master Fellows, Iowa.*

The corner stone of the new Masonic home at Springfield, O., was laid Oct. 19, 1892, by Grand Master Levi C. Goodale. The Grand Master created a Mason "at sight," Gen. Asa S. Bushnell, who gave $10,000 towards the enterprise.—*Masonic Token.*

...The FEZ...

Devoted to the Interests of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine in North America.

THE SHRINE CABINET
IN IOWA MASONIC LIBRARY.

THE FEZ.

TRIBAL GATHERINGS.

Imperial Council, Nantasket, Mass., Sept. 2 and 3, 1895.
El Kahir, Cedar Rapids, Iowa Annual, Dec. 11, 1895.
Kaaba, Davenport, Iowa, Annual.

IMPERIAL COUNCIL.

OFFICERS FOR 1894-5.

WILLIAM B. MELISH.....IMPERIAL POTENTATE
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Wayland Trask..... Imperial Deputy Potentate
Brooklyn, N Y.

John T. Brush..... Imperial Chief Rabban
Indianapolis, Indiana.

Cyrus W. Eaton.....Imperial Assistant Rabban
Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

A. B. McGaffey.....Imperial High Priest and Prophet
Denver, Colorado.

Ethelbert F. Allen..... Imperial Oriental Guide
Kansas City, Missouri.

William S. Brown..... Imperial Treasurer
Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

BENJAMIN W. ROWELL ..... IMPERIAL RECORDER
Boston, Massachusetts.

Thomas J. Bishop .....Imperial I Ceremonial Master
Greenbush Heights, New York.

Thaddeus B. Bucher..... Imperial II Ceremonial Master
Bridgeport, Connecticut.

Wm. H. S. Wright ..... Imperial Marshal
St. Paul, Minnesota.

John H. Atwood..... Imperial Captain of Guard
Leavenworth, Kansas.

Horace K Blanchard ..... Imperial Outer Guard
Providence, Rhode Island.

Members ad Vitam:

1 Walter M. Fleming, New York.
2 Sam Briggs, Cleveland, Ohio.
3 William B Melish, Cincinnati, Ohio.
4 Thomas J. Hudson, Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

Members Emeritus.

1 Albert Rawson, New York.
2 Charles W. Torey, New York.
3 George O. Tyler, Burlington, Vermont.
4 Charles T. McClenachan, New York.

REPRESENTATIVES FOR 1895-6.

[We will here give the names of Representatives, date of their election, and name of Temple. Recorders will please forward returns on receipt of this.]

Abdallah, Leavenworth, Kansas--John H. Atwood, P. J. Freling, C. C. Goddard.

Acca, Richmond, Virginia—Louis P. Ecker.

Afifi, Tacoma, Washington—H. Allan.

Ahmed, Marquette, Michigan—John Q. Adams, Leroy M. Midlam.

Aladdin, Columbus, Ohio—John P. McCune.

Aleppo, Boston, Massachusetts—Benjamin W. Rowell, James A. Fox, Thomas Waterman, Charles H. Porter.

Algeria, Helena, Montana—George H. Casey.

Alhambra, Chattanooga, Tennessee--A. N. Sloan.

Al Chymia, Memphis, Tennessee—Bun F. Price.

Al Kader, Portland, Oregon—Irving W. Pratt.

Al Koran, Cleveland, Ohio—Merwin Jackson, Horace A. Bishop, Evan Morris, Robert M. Hazeltine.

Al Malaikah, Los Angeles, California—Florin L. Jones, Franklin Jordan.

Almas, Washington D. C.—Harrison Dingman, Geo. H. Walker, Harry Standiford, Frank H. Thomas.

Ararat, Kansas City, Missouri—Ethelbert F. Allen, William H. Brown, John H. Wiles, Arnold Shanklin.

Ballut Abyad, Albuquerque, New Mexico—Edward Medler.

Ben Hur, Austin, Texas—William H. Bell.

Boumi, Baltimore, Maryland—George W. Starr. J. B. Schwatka.

Cyprus, Albany, New York—Charles H. Armatage, Thos. J. Bishop.

Damascus, Rochester, New York—George F. Loder, William H. Whiting, Courtland Avery.

El Jebel, Denver, Colorado—Dec. 16, '94, S. W. Chaney, A. F. Vick Roy, A. B. McGaffey and J. H. Peabody.

El Kalah, Salt Lake City, Utah—Arthur M. Grant.

El-Kahir, Cedar Rapids, Iowa—Dec. 12, C. W. Eaton, C. Rap., I. P., W. J. Jameson; Cl. Bl. W. N. Dearborn, Stone City; E. S. Childs, Waterloo.

El Katif, Spokane, Washington—Nathan B. Rundle.

El Riad, Sioux Falls, South Dakota—Park Davis, W. T. Doolittle, Frank A. Brown.

El Zagal, Fargo, North Dakota—Thomas Baker, Jr., F. B. Fancher.

Hamasa, Meridian, Mississippi—O. A. Harrison.

Hella, Dallas, Texas—L. M. Knepfley. James Garrity, Joseph Swope.

India, Oklahoma, O. T.

Isis, Salina, Kansas—Charles A. Hiller, John F. Merrill, James H Reeder.

Islam, San Francisco, California—Charles L. Field, Victor D. Duboce, Brilsford P. Flint, Charles L. Patten.

Ismailia, Buffalo, New York—Charles W. Cushman, Frank T. Gilbert, Geo. L. Brown, M. D., Erastus C. Knight.

Jesusalem, New Orleans, Louisiana. Richard Lambert.

Kaaba, Davenport, Iowa—Geo. F. White. I. P.; Geo. L. Osborn, Geo. M. Titus; Chas. M. Waterman.

Kismet, Brooklyn, New York—Wayland Trask, Clarence E. Stump, Frank C. Mason.

Kora, Lewiston, Maine—George D. Babbitt.
Korein, U. D., Rawlins, Wyoming.
Kosair, Louisville, Kentucky. William Ryan.

Lu Lu. Philadelphia. Pennsylvania—Joseph S. Wright, Edward B. Jordan. Frederick Leibrandt, Charles Cary.

Mecca, New York, N. Y.—Saram R. Ellison, Geo. W. Millar, James McGee, Joseph B. Eakins.

Medinah, Chicago, Illinois—Chester T. Drake, Robert M. Johnson, Thomas H. Currier, William Johnston.

Media, Watertown New York—Dec. 10, Fred. W. Streeter; D. G. Eggleston.

Mohammed, Peoria, Illinois—Seth F. Haskins.

Moila, St. Joseph, Missouri—M. W. Steiner.

Moolah, St Louis—B. F. Nelson. G. W. Nieman, Otto F. Stifel.

Morocco, Jacksonville, Florida—O. Perie Havens.

Moslem, Detroit, Michigan.—Fred. Fayram, Ed. R. Harris Lou Burt, Charles F. Beck.

Mount Sinai, Montpelier, Vermont—Frank A. Dwinell, Elihu B Taft.

Murat, Indianapolis Indiana—John T. Brush, Jos. W. Smith, Henry H. McGaffey, Chalmers Brown.

Naja, Deadwood, South Dakota—William J. McMakin.

Oasis, U. D, Charlotte, North Carolina.

Oriental, Troy New York—Henry Stowell, Franklin O. Stiles, Oliver Dexter, Jr.

Osiris, Wheeling West Virginia - Matthew R. Wolff, E. E. Baldwin, Rev. R R. Swope.

Osman, Saint Paul, Minnesota—W. H. S Wright, C. E. Stone, T W. Hugo.

Palestine, Providence, Rhode Island—George H. Burnham Horace K. Blanchard, John S. Rogers, Geo. L. Shepley.

Pyramid, Bridgeport, Connecticut—Hugh Stirling, Thaddeus B Beecher, Carleton F. Hoadley Frank J. Haramore.

Rajah, Reading, Pennsylvania—J. Lew Rake.

Rameses, Toronto, Canada—Henry A. Collins.

Sahara, Pine Bluffs, Arkansas—John T. Marsh.

Salaam, Olney, Illinois—R. F. Powers.

Saladin, Grand Rapids, Michigan—Lou B Wirsor, Charles E. Fink, H. K. Dean, N. B. Clark.

Sesostris, Lincoln, Nebraska—John H. Mauritius Melchert H Garten. Burrows H. Begole.

Syria, Pittsburgh Pennsylvania—J. M. Kerr, W. S. Brown, James Arnold and Max Holmes

Syrian, Cincinnati, Ohio—Levi C. Goodale, Jacob H. Bromwell, Morris L. Buchwalter, Allen Andrews.

Tebala, U. D., Rockford, Illinois

Tangier, Omaha, Nebraska—H. C. Akin, G. Anderson, W. S. Strawn.

Tripoli, Milwaukee, Wisconsin—Eugene S Elliott, Luther L. Caufy William H. Brazier.

Yaarab, Atlanta, Georgia—H. C. Stockdell.

Zamora, Birmingham, Alabama--Ben. M. Jacobs.

Zem Zem, Erie, Pennsylvania—Frank G. Maus.

Ziyara, Utica New York - John W. Boyle, Edward Brown, Roderick Campbell.

Zuhrah, Minneapolis, Minnesota—John A. Schelener, Roland H. Hartley, R. D. Russell.

OUR SHRINE CASE.

Our illustration this month is given from the gallery of the Masonic Library and represents the beautiful shrine case presented by El-Kahir Temple to, and accepted with resolutions of thanks by the Grand Lodge of Iowa in 1891. It is made of light colored wood, quartered oak highly polished. The hood connecting the cases is made of small pieces of wood glued together and dressed to represent old hammered brasswork. The work was done by L. Harbach, of Des Moines, and cost several hundreds of dollars. A beautiful donation sign in heavy brass, bears the legend, "El-Kahir Temple, N. M. S., Cedar Rapids, Iowa, to Grand Lodge of Iowa." Shrine bodies everywhere are cordially invited to contribute anything they deem of interest for display in this department. Direct to "Iowa Masonic Library, Cedar Rapids, Iowa."

AMONG THE TEMPLES.

"Whatever walk of life you tread,
You'll find no man that's finer
Than one who wears upon his head
The Fez of a Mystic Shriner."

Saladin, Grand Rapids, Mich., gave their "Midwinter Carnival" on Feb. 15. The girl in green was a stunner!

Kismet, Brooklyn, N. Y., met and created a lot of novices. Zikrool, Hagegatool, Mohammedey-ahs. No deaths reported yet.

Rajah, Reading, Pa., held a meeting on Feb. 13, and on Feb. 19 they set apart the evening as a social for the ladies. It was a success.

Ismalia, Buffalo, N. Y., gave their sixth annual banquet and ball on Feb. 19. Proceeds went to benefit the W. C. A. and the Woman's Union.

Moila, St. Jo, Mo., informs her sons of a winter carnival at home, on Feb. 27, 1895, with a tasty notice. The handsome face of Potentate Van Deventer beams from the post of honor. Es Selamu, Moila.

Al Kader, Portland, Ore., had "extraordinary observances" on February 16, 1895. Their three graces are certainly symbolic.

Aleppo, Boston, Mass., had "a night of a thousand nights," at Music Hall, Boston, on Feb. 20, 1895. It was the brownies' night out.

Jerusalem, New Orleans, La., announces a gathering of the faithful in their sacred city on February 16, 1895, and accompanies a neat notice with a roster of its Nobles.

"Mecca." We are happy in possessing a copy of the finely illustrated pamphlet promulgated by Mecca, the Parent Temple. We shall hope to review it at no distant date.

Syria, Pittsburg, Pa., presented a neat invitation to its members to attend a feast with the usual work, on March 6, when a number of candidates were run through the coke ovens.

Tangier, Omaha, gave a genuine "Arabian Night" on March 8. Among the large class of candidates were a number from Iowa, who went over from Council Bluffs. Further notice next month.

Sesostris, Lincoln, Neb., had their ladies night and annual banquet on Feb. 26. They had a good time. With our "invite" came a solemn looking coffin-shaped card, which, when we opened, was—well, draw on your imagination—for shame, and ladies night out, too!

Syrian, Cincinnati O., comes the information that the largest class ever conducted over the sands traveled in a due bill course on Feb. 22; 229 candidates; 1,500 at the banquet; visitors present from all over the country. The *Commercial Gazette*, of Feb. 23, gave a three-column illustrated article. The Imperial Potentate's Temple is a little ahead on that deal, of all competitors.

ACCA, Richmond, Va., halted beneath the palms of their city on March 2, and entertained strangers with observances to the memory of Moosaylamah'l-Kazzab, (The Liar).

MEDINAH is on deck again. This time we get their official divan *en group* and the handsome features of their director. They held a meeting Feb. 20; their regular meeting night is the last Friday of each month.

EL JEBEL, Denver, sent forth a magnificent proclamation for the orgies of Feb. 25. A fine portrait of their Potentate, S. W. Chaney, ornaments the much illustrated notice. El Jebel does things on a style of her own.

ALMAS, Washington, D. C. On Feb. 28 they bamboozled Taleb to venture within their walls, when they tortured him into conversion and started him out as a missionary. It is written in the book they sent us, in red.

MOSLEM, Detroit, puts out the longest notice, for its Tunnel City, (Port Huron) visit, for Feb. 26, 1895, we have yet seen. What a time they must have had, to judge from prefigured appearances. Moslem, has Toby, the talking elephant, to cheer them on their journeys.

OSMAN, St. Paul, Minn., conducted a class of 17 novices across the sands of Minnesota Point, Feb. 12. Nobles E. D. Humphrey, C. P. Emerson, Frank Taylor, G. L. Weaver and the writer were there, wearing El Kahir fezes. They know how to entertain. Ritual and work, perfect.

KAABA, Davenport, held their regular meeting on March 5, and conducted a number of candidates across the desert wastes of the river front. They kept off the island where the Irish guard once mistook a lot of us with fezes on for British "Sodgers" and tried to run us in for singing "Marching through Georgia."

ABD-EL-KADER IBU MAHEE-ED DEEN.

One of the Festivals of the Oriental Calendar much observed by Nobles of the far East is that in memory of Abd-el-Kader-ibu Mahee-ed-Deen, born in Mascara, Algeria, 1807 and died in Damascus, 1883. He was Emeer of Arab tribes and a leader against the French. Napoleon III bought him to peace, and pensioned him and his followers. In 1860 he saved 13,000 Christians from massacre by Moslem fanatics. He was Shayk (Potentate) of the Shrine in Damascus for 20 years.—(The Book of Direction, p. p. 9.)

Of him the Illustrious Rob Morris in his "Freemasonry in the Holy Land" says: "this illustrious Arab, whose chivalrous defense of the persecuted and distressed at Damascus in 1860, has ennobled Freemasonry and human nature itself, was born in May, 1807, near Oran near Algeria, N. Africa At the age of five the lad could read and write, at twelve he was proficient in the Koran and religious works, and traditions of his creed; at fourteen he was enrolled as a Hafiz, or person who had committed the entire Koran to memory. He is a man who, even at 61, exhibits fine symmetry and compactness of figure, being about five feet six inches high and having a frame formed for untiring activity. As a horseman and Swordsman he is unexcelled. * * * * This splendid specimen of the Arab race of North Africa, married at the age of fifteen, agreeably to the injunction of the Koran, "marry young;" but contrary to the practice of Musslemans generally, he was content with one wife. At the age of sixteen he made the pilgrimage to Mecca in company with his father. In 1830 the capture of Algiers by the French opened the way for the exercise of his patriotic impulses. At the age of twenty three he began to move the hearts of his people by an eloquence which ranked him at once as one of the masters of human speech. He formed a

league of the Arab tribes against the invaders, and on the 21st of November, 1832, was elected by acclamation their SULTAN. His speech of acknowledgment was an effort perhaps never paralleled. Not for minutes but for hours did the soldier orator pour forth one continued stream of burning and impassioned eloquence. * * * * Being a man of large possessions, he imitated the conduct of Washington in refusing all personal compensation from the treasury of his nation. * * * His military code had this paragraph: "Il Hadgi Abd-el Kader cares not for this world, and withdraws from it as much as his avocations will permit. He despises wealth and riches. He lives with the greatest plainness and sobriety. He is always simply clad. He rises in the middle of the night to recommend his own soul and the souls of his followers to God. His chief pleasure is in praying to God, with fasting, that his sins may be forgiven." In the varying fortunes of war he in 1847 surrendered to the French and was detained in France until 1853. While there he composed two remarkable volumes, one on "The Unity of the Godhead," the other "Hints for the Wise, Instruction for the Ignorant." He was pensioned by the French in 1853, paroled, and returned, first to Broussa, in Turkey, then in 1855 to Damascus, in Syria, where, on his arrival, the entire population turned out to meet and greet this distinguished chief. More than one thousand of his old chiefs and soldiers gathered around him here, and constituted themselves his suite and body guard. * * * He opened a theological school in Mohammedan doctrines, with about sixty scholars, and twice a day taught them the doctrines of his faith.

The epoch in his life which gives him prominence in the sight of the civilized world, was when in July 1860, he, with one thousand of his faithful Algerians, breasted the storm of fanatical hatred, and rescued 13,000 Christians from pollution and death. For ten days he labored in his work day and night. Once the mob approached his house, and with frantic yells demanded that he should deliver up the Christians to them. He drew his sword, and, accompanied by a strong band of his followers at once went out to confront the yelling crowd. "Wretches," he exclaimed, "is this the way you honor the Prophet? May his curse be upon you! Shame! Shame! You will yet live to repent. You think you may do as you like with the Christians, but the day of retribution will come. The Franks will yet turn your Mosques into churches. My brothers! Stand back, or I will give my men the order to fire."* * * * All the European Consuls flew to him for protection, and remained his guests for more than a month. At last the whole body of refugees were forwarded to Beyrout under protection of his men. * * * * * The civilized world acknowledged the grandeur of the deed, and sent him marks of gratitude. France, the Grand Cerden of the Legion of Honor; Russia, the Grand Cross of the White Eagle; Prussia, the Grand Cross of the Black Eagle; Graze, the Grand Cross of the Savior, etc.; From America, a brace of pistols inlaid with gold; The Masonic order of France pressnted him with a magnificent star.

THE IMPERIAL COUNCIL.

It may be of interest to the general reader to know something about the Supreme body of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. As above indicated it is denominated The Imperial Council, and "it has power to enact Laws, Statutes and Regulations for the government of the whole Order; to issue edicts; to amend or repeal the same; to grant dispensations and charters for holding Temples of the Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine within its jurisdiction; and to amend or revoke the same. Its authority also extends to such Temples as may be organized under its dispensations or charters in foreign countries."

Representation in this body from its subordinate Temple is given as follows: "To every Temple working by authority of a charter granted by this Imperial Council there shall be one Representative, who must be a member of the Temple electing him. When the membership reaches three hundred the temple is entitled to two Representatives; when four hundred, three; six hundred or over, four; but no temple can have more than four. These Representatives are elected by ballot annually, as the Imperial Council now meets every year. All Post Imperial Potentates are Representatives *ad vitam*. Mileage and per diem is allowed to representatives attending the council, but representatives cannot receive more, regardless of claim thereto, in any one year than has been paid into the Imperial treasury by the Temple they represent.

With the above exception, no individual can be a representative without being sent properly credentialed by his Temple.

In the case of Imperial officers this may sometimes work hardship, when one who is worthy to continue in office fails to be returned as a representative, and we would prefer a proviso to allow official life to continue with the privilege of re-election, even if no vote were allowed except to actual representatives. The same is true in regard to important committees. It has been said too, that if a Temple from which a representative has been honored by an Imperial office does not have pride enough, or finds good cause to discontinue a representative, the Imperial Council is not to blame for a law that makes life end when the representative fails of re-election in his own Temple. Some quite drastic criticism and even some puritanical exorcism has been heaped upon the Imperial Council by those who are fighting against the supposition that this claims to be a Masonic body. We have found nothing to support a shadow of argument, and no learned Noble will ever say it is a Masonic body. Of course the prerequisites to membership are Masonic qualifications but this does not mean and has never been made a claim to Masonic standing by the Order.

IN ITS SPHERE.

Masonry has nothing to gain through the assumption of prerogatives not its own. It must always be the bounden duty of those well informed among us to disabuse the minds of "weaker brethren" who perceive in the beauties of the Order, more to their untutored minds and unaccustomed gaze than ever was intended for them through its teachings. Masonry in its sphere is a blessed and beneficent institution, but, the voice of wisdom and experience, will dictate great caution against carrying the claim beyond reason. One may say that in its sphere Masonry is supreme and peerless, but when this is carried to excess, and the claim of divine authority or religious prerogative made, it forces the cause into an unenviable and compromising relation. Notwithstanding the strange defection of most social organizations originally intended for some similar purpose, and thence their decay, Freemasonry comes to us, untainted and unstained with treason or sacrilege; comes to us magnificent in the maintenance of its record of "brotherly love, relief and truth." It must continue among us as in all societies, (more especially such as ours) to be the practice of the intelligent, the true Masters in our art, to properly instruct the ignorant, and to correct their mistake of believing that the sphere of our Order is not circumscribed and as truly kept in due bounds as a whole as are we each as individual Masons with all mankind (more especially with a brother Mason.) A careful reading of the authoritative literature of the Order will easily inform all who search for its light that Masonry is not in any sense a religion, nor a substitute for the religious institutions, nor a method of procuring sacrimental, or even a means of salvation, but purely, simply, and in a limited sense a benevolent and fraternal society. Let us therefore, brethren, sensibly accept this large but well defined sphere and strive to keep up the standard of excellence so high that even "our enemies and our accusers" will be constrained to perceive and emulate our good work and honor our consistency as Free and Accepted Masons.

TO RECORDERS OF TEMPLES.

Since we combine the editorial compliment with our courtesy of placing all of you on our list as Recorder of El Kahir, will you please mail us your literature? Come now, let 'em slide this way!

We have no evidence to prove when the Royal Arch degree was instituted. The first reference to it is in a rare work published in 1744, and the first actual minute occurs some years later in the records of the Lodge at Fredericksburg, Virginia.—*The Lodge.*

The Master of St. John's Lodge, of Norwalk, Conn., appealed to the courts against a summons from the Grand Master to appear and answer for disobedience of orders, and was defeated.—*Masonic Token.*

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